

**State of California
Department of Parks and Recreation
NOTICE OF EXEMPTION**

TO: Office of Planning and Research
1400 Tenth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

FROM: Department of Parks and Recreation
1416 Ninth Street
P.O. Box 942896
Sacramento, CA 94296-0001

PROJECT TITLE: Geotechnical Investigation - Dairy Barn Stabilization

LOCATION: Wilder Ranch State Park

COUNTY: Santa Cruz

DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE AND PURPOSE OF PROJECT:

Conduct geotechnical investigation of the soil near Dairy Barn at Wilder Ranch State Park to determine subsurface conditions in preparation for proposed stabilization and reconstruction of the barn. Investigations will include six drilled, sampled test borings up to 4" in diameter penetrating up to 60' below ground surface. Three borings will be completed outside the existing barn and within the footprint of the proposed barn addition to the east. Two of these will be in the vicinity of Wilder Creek but will avoid material in the creek. The test borings will be advanced using a solid flight auger and/or rotary methods. A track-mounted drill rig and support truck will be used. The borings will be supplemented by five impact-driven cone penetration tests two inches in diameter. If bentonite slurry is required to advance borings, then casing will be set into the ground and advanced as necessary to achieve an adequate ground seal. All bentonite drill fluid will be contained and recirculated in a tank. Soil samples will be recovered at 3-5 foot intervals. Boreholes will be backfilled with cement to within one foot of the ground surface. The upper one foot will be backfilled with native soil. Any excess cuttings and/or bentonite drilling fluid will be contained in 55-gallon drums and removed from the site. All ground disturbance will be monitored by the district archaeologist. Best Management Practices will be employed to prevent surface runoff. If a mud rotary drill is used a DPR-approved Health & Safety Plan/Spill Prevention Plan will be implemented that will include management procedures to contain the bentonite drilling fluids. The drill rig and any support vehicles will be positioned carefully to minimize soil disturbance. Any soil removed from the boreholes will be replaced in the hole or removed from the site. Work will be conducted during daylight hours.

PUBLIC AGENCY APPROVING THE PROJECT: California Department of Parks and Recreation

NAME OF DIVISION OR DISTRICT CARRYING OUT THE PROJECT: Northern Service Center

EXEMPT STATUS:

☒ Categorical Exemption Class: 6 Section: 15306

REASONS WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT:

Project consists of basic data collection, research, and resource evaluation activities that do not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource.

CONTACT: Gail Sevens, Northern Service Center

(916) 445-8827, gsevr@parks.ca.gov

Original signature on file

Kathleen Amann, Acting Deputy Director, No. Svc. Ctr.

DATE _____